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Fifth Committee

Summary record of the 14th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 2 November 2007, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Ali. . . . . (Malaysia)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Saha

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The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Agenda item 114: Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

1. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to rule 92 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly concerning elections by secret ballot and to paragraph 16 of General Assembly decision 34/41 on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly.

(a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/101/Rev.1; A/C.5/62/4)

2. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to document A/62/101/Rev.1, in which the Secretary-General referred to rules 155 and 156 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and invited the Assembly to appoint six persons to fill the vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on 31 December 2007. In document A/C.5/62/4, the Secretary-General communicated the names of seven persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2008. Since the number of candidates from the Group of Asian States and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States corresponded to the number of vacancies for those regional groups, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the candidates' appointment or reappointment by acclamation.

3. *It was so decided.*

4. *Mr. Hussain (Pakistan), Ms. Kaji (Japan) and Mr. Singh (India), in the case of the Group of Asian States, and Mr. Flores Callejas (Honduras), in the case of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, were recommended for appointment or reappointment to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2008.*

5. **The Chairman** reminded the Committee that, consistent with the practice of the General Assembly, if more than the required number of candidates had obtained the required majority, those who had obtained the largest number of votes above the required majority, up to the number of seats to be filled, would be recommended for appointment. He invited members to elect by secret ballot two candidates from the Group of Western European and Other States.

6. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Chirwa (Malawi), Mr. Tay Choon Hong (Singapore) and Mr. Yáñez Pilgrim (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) acted as tellers.*

7. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers:	191
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	191
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	188
Required majority:	95
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Maddens (Belgium)	128
Mr. Kramer (Canada)	127
Mr. Mir (United Kingdom)	106

8. *Having obtained the required majority and the largest numbers of votes, Mr. Maddens (Belgium) and Mr. Kramer (Canada) were recommended for appointment or reappointment to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2008.*

(b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions (A/62/102/Rev.1; A/C.5/62/5 and Add.1)

9. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to document A/62/102/Rev.1, in which the Secretary-General referred to articles 158 and 159 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and invited the Assembly to appoint six persons to fill the vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Committee on Contributions on 31 December 2007. In document A/C.5/62/5 and Add.1, the Secretary-General communicated the names of six persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2008. Since the number of candidates from the Group of African States, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and the Group of Western European and Other States corresponded to the number of vacancies for those regional groups, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the candidates' appointment or reappointment by acclamation.

10. *It was so decided.*

11. *Mr. Acakpo-Satchivi (Benin) and Mr. Bouheddou (Algeria), in the case of the Group of African States, Mr. Greiver del Hoyo (Uruguay) and Mr. Hermosillo Sosa (Mexico), in the case of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, and Mr. Eckersley (Australia) and Mr. da Fonseca Fernandes Ramos (Portugal), in the case of the Group of Western European and Other States, were recommended for appointment or reappointment to the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2008.*

(f) Appointment of members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee (A/62/106; A/C.5/62/9)

12. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to document A/62/106, in which the Secretary-General referred to paragraphs 3, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 61/275 and pointed out the need to appoint five persons to fill the vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee. Also in document A/62/106, the Secretary-General referred to paragraph 7 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 61/275, whereby members of the Committee would serve for three years and could be reappointed for a second and final term of three years, with the exception of two of the initial five members of the Committee, who would be appointed by drawing of lots to serve for four years. In document A/C.5/62/9, the Secretary-General communicated the names of seven persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment.

13. In accordance with paragraph 3 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 61/275, the Committee would comprise five members, no two of whom would be nationals of the same State, appointed by the General Assembly on the basis of equitable geographical representation, personal qualifications and experience.

14. At its 58th meeting in June 2007, prior to the adoption of General Assembly resolution 61/275, the Chairman of the Fifth Committee had stated that, given the unique nature of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee, it was understood that each regional group would be entitled to one seat in the Committee. That understanding was also reflected in the note by the Secretary-General (A/62/106).

15. Since the number of candidates from the Group of African States, the Group of Asian States, the Group of Eastern European States and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States corresponded to the number of vacancies for those regional groups, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the candidates' appointment by acclamation.

16. *It was so decided.*

17. *Mr. Muwanga (Uganda), in the case of the Group of African States, Mr. Nath Kaul (India), in the case of the Group of Asian States, Mr. Dubinkin (Russian Federation), in the case of the Group of Eastern European States, and Mr. Strachan (Jamaica), in the case of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, were recommended for appointment to the Independent Audit Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2008, pursuant to paragraph 7 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 61/275.*

18. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to rule 93 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and recalled that, consistent with the practice of the General Assembly, if more than the required number of candidates had obtained the required majority, those who had obtained the largest number of votes above the required majority, up to the number of seats to be filled, would be recommended for appointment. He invited members to elect by secret ballot one candidate from the Group of Western European and other States.

19. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Sena (Brazil), Mr. Teng Fei (China) and Ms. Repnik (Slovenia) acted as tellers.*

20. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers:	191
Invalid ballots:	4
Number of valid ballots:	187
Abstentions:	3
Number of members voting:	184
Required majority:	93
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Walker (United States of America)	99
Mr. Muñoz (Spain)	59
Mr. Sella (Switzerland)	26

21. *Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Walker (United States of America) was recommended for appointment to the Independent Audit Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2008, pursuant to paragraph 7 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 61/275.*

22. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to draw lots to select two members to serve for a period of four years, pursuant to paragraph 7 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 61/275.

23. *The Committee decided by the drawing of lots that Mr. Walker (United States of America) and Mr. Muwanga (Uganda) would serve for a period of four years, pursuant to paragraph 7 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 61/275.*

(c) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee (A/62/103 and A/C.5/62/6)

24. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to document A/62/103, in which the Secretary-General referred to article 20 of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and invited the General Assembly to confirm the appointment or reappointment of the three persons whom he had designated to fill vacancies in the Investments Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2008. In document A/C.5/62/6, the Secretary-General submitted the names of three persons for confirmation by the General Assembly. Since the number of candidates corresponded to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Committee decided by acclamation to recommend that the Assembly should confirm the candidates' appointment or reappointment.

25. *It was so decided.*

26. *The Committee recommended that the Assembly should confirm the appointment or reappointment of Mr. Kassow (Germany), Mr. McDonough (United States of America) and Ms. Ploix (France) for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2008.*

27. **The Chairman** indicated that, in accordance with past practice, the Secretary-General proposed to reappoint Mr. Pictet (Switzerland) as an ad hoc member of the Investments Committee for a one-year term beginning on 1 January 2008. He took it that the Committee decided to recommend that the Assembly should confirm his reappointment.

28. *It was so decided.*

29. *The Committee recommended that the Assembly should reappoint Mr. Pictet (Switzerland) as an ad hoc member to the Investments Committee for a one-term term beginning on 1 January 2008.*

(d) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors (A/62/104; A/C.5/62/7)

30. **The Chairman** drew attention to document A/62/104, in which the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the need to appoint the Auditor-General, or other officer holding the equivalent title, of a Member State to fill the vacancy that would arise on 30 June 2008 in the Board of Auditors. In his note A/C.5/62/7, the Secretary-General had informed the Assembly that the Government of China had nominated the Auditor-General of the General Audit Office of China for appointment. Since there was only one nomination to fill the vacant post, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation the appointment of the Auditor-General of the People's Republic of China for a six-year term beginning on 1 July 2008.

31. *It was so decided.*

32. *The Committee recommended that the Assembly should appoint the Auditor-General of the People's Republic of China for a six-year term beginning on 1 July 2008.*

(e) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal (A/62/105; A/C.5/62/8)

33. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to document A/62/105, in which the Secretary-General referred to article 3, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal and invited the Assembly to appoint two persons to fill the vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Administrative Tribunal on 31 December 2007. Recalling that, in its resolution 61/261 of 4 April 2007 on the administration of justice at the United Nations, the General Assembly decided to continue consideration of that item during its sixty-second session as a matter of priority with the objective of implementing the new system of administration of justice no later than January 2009 and requested the

Secretary-General to ensure that the Joint Appeals Boards, the Joint Disciplinary Committees, the United Nations Administrative Tribunal and other bodies, as appropriate, continued to function until the new system was operational with a view to clearing all cases that were before them.

34. In document A/C.5/62/8, the Secretary-General communicated the names of two persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2008. Since the number of candidates corresponded to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend the candidates' appointment or reappointment by acclamation.

35. *It was so decided.*

36. *Mr. Gordillo (Argentina) and Mr. Wijewardane (Sri Lanka) were recommended for appointment or reappointment to the United Nations Administrative Tribunal for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2008.*

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.